



# Australian Bureau of Statistics

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### MEDIA FACT SHEET

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### One in five Australians engages in voluntary work: Census

- Almost one in five, or 18% of Australians 15 years of age and over reported that they had done voluntary work in the year before the 2006 Census. Of those, 57% were female and 43% were male.
- Canberra was the capital city with the highest proportion of people doing voluntary work (22.3%). Sydney and Perth had the lowest proportions of people volunteering (14.8% and 15.1% respectively).
- Western Australia was the state with the lowest proportion of volunteers (16.8%).

Some interesting aspects of the response:

- Those born in North America, including the United States and Canada, were most likely to be volunteers in the Australian Community (29.9%), followed by those born in Micronesia and Melanesia (21.8%). Australian-born came in third at 20.6%.
- Those born in South Eastern Europe were least likely to be volunteers (6.4%).
- More comprehensive statistics on voluntary work can be found in *Voluntary Work, Australia 2006* (ABS cat. no. 4441.0).

NB: The figures in this fact sheet exclude overseas visitors. Where an answer to a question has not been provided (i.e. not stated) these occurrences form a separate category in the data and therefore some percentages do not total to 100%.

Source: ABS 2006 Census.

**Table 1. 2006 Census: Volunteers in Capital cities(a)**

	Sydney %	Melbourne %	Brisbane %	Adelaide %	Perth %	Hobart %	Darwin %	Canberra %
Not a volunteer	74.6	74.8	73.7	74.5	75.4	71.9	68.7	71.0
Volunteer	14.8	15.6	17.6	17.8	15.1	19.4	17.5	22.3
Not stated	10.6	9.6	8.7	7.7	9.4	8.7	13.7	6.7

(a) Capital City Statistical Division.

**Table 2. 2006 Census: Volunteers in States and Territories**

	<b>NSW</b> %	<b>Vic.</b> %	<b>Qld</b> %	<b>SA</b> %	<b>WA</b> %	<b>Tas.</b> %	<b>NT</b> %	<b>ACT</b> %	<b>Aust.</b> %
Not a volunteer	73.0	72.9	71.8	71.8	73.2	71.6	68.2	70.9	72.6
Volunteer	17.1	17.8	18.5	20.3	16.9	20.0	17.6	22.3	17.9
Not stated	9.9	9.3	9.7	7.8	10.0	8.4	14.2	6.8	9.5

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